

La Vie Collegienne

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THIS WEEK IN LA VIE

SPORTS



Women's Basketball star, Andrea Hoover, doesn't let her height stop her from being a vital force on the court

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A & E



If you haven't already gone to see *New Moon* don't waste your money. A&E Editor Tony Gorick reviews the latest installment in the Twilight series

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Making Connections: MIC V a huge success

PATRICK SALOMON '10
PERSPECTIVES EDITOR

LVC's fifth Music Industry Conference came and went Saturday, November 17 in a flurry of panels, discussions, and the most important of all undergraduate pursuits: networking.

Over the course of the event, professionals from all walks of the music business spoke in a series of panels about the state of the music industry with LVC's up and coming music recording and business majors. The overall success of the music conference is thanks entirely to the music students who organized and executed the day long event.

"I think the students rocked," says Professor Jeffrey Snyder, director of LVC's music business program and professor of MBS 179, the class responsible for making MIC happen at LVC every fall. Snyder took on a "peripheral sheepdog" role in leading the class, allowing the students to plan everything from inviting the panelists to LVC to finding a suitable place to hold lunch for the hundred plus students and musicians in attendance.

"I really didn't do anything," admits a humble Snyder. "The students did it all. I'm very proud of what they did."

Snyder's students certainly earned the pride of their professor. In less than a semester they staged a conference with panels on topics including publishing,



MIC Matt Pribisco and Andrew Pomeroy '10 with Matty Longo and Daren Metz at the 2009 Music Industry Conference. Metz is a professional percussionist who currently performs with the Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra, Luther Vandross Tribute Concert Series, and the Roots to Rhythm Drum Clinic Tour. Longo, from Longo Drums, builds one-ply, steam-bent snare drums out of exotic and domestic wood.

gigging, engineering sound, a clinic on recording drums, and a discussion on the State of the Industry. All in all, the conference was a triumph for the music

but all of them were taken care of." Myers is a Senior Music Business major at LVC, and was the head student in charge

"It turned out excellent and helped get the college a bigger name. The biggest thing is making connections and networking and meeting people"

department, and a shining mark on the resume of all students involved.

"It ran very smoothly," says AJ Myers, the man with the plan for this year's MIC. "There were little fires throughout the day,

turned out excellent and helped get the college a bigger name. The biggest thing is making connections and networking and

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Job situation after graduation still uncertain

CARRISSA MELLINGER '11
LA VIE STAFF WRITER

Most graduating students have had four years to study, plan, and decide what they would like to do for the rest of their lives. However, the current state of the economy has forced graduates to take a second look at their career choices and the opportunities that are being presented to them. Gwen Miller, the assistant director of career services, stated that the job market "has been more difficult than in years past." This year there "is certainly a higher competition level; you might have more alumni, not just alumni at LVC, but older candidates who are looking for positions," he said.

"Maybe people who are dealing with being laid off are going for the same jobs that our graduates are going for," he added. Also, the starting salary for last year's graduating class was 4 percent higher than the previous year. This year, starting salaries not only did not increase, but fell 1.2 percent, according to the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE).

According to NACE, graduates earning business administration and management degrees are in high demand with a 4.7 percent increase to average salaries since last year. Actually, the average salary offers for business majors in general, including those with accounting and finance degrees, have been on the rise. Accounting is the profession with the highest number

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NEWS

JOBS: for graduates jobs wanted

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of offers to the graduating class of 2009, with an average starting salary of \$49,770. Slowly and surely this field of work continues to see positive numbers.

The top five occupations with the largest employment in Pennsylvania are elementary school teachers, postsecondary teachers, accountants and auditors, secondary school teachers, and general and operation managers, according to acinet.org. In the Fall 2009 Salary Survey by NACE, educational services were ranked No. 2 on the list of the greatest number of offers for the class of 2009.

The field of petroleum and coal products was also ranked in the top 10 and had the highest average salary offer at \$73,245. Not bad for a fresh start in the work force. Others on the list included the engineering, consulting, financial and medical fields.

On the upside, LVC graduates are finding positives in the local economies. Pennsylvania's unemployment rate of 5.4 percent is

below the national average of 5.8 percent. "By staying in the area, you definitely have a higher networking opportunity of people close by you. We do have a lot of alumni who are [staying] relatively local," Miller said. "It's a lot easier to go to somebody and say, 'I'm a graduate of Lebanon Valley College' and have them know exactly what you're talking about."

With the Career Connections database, Job Center website, Harrisburg or Lebanon chambers of commerce sites, and some young professionals' networking groups, there are plenty of resources to find opportunities. The Career Connections data base and the Job Center website are both offered by LVC's career services center. The center can be a valuable tool to finding a job while at LVC.

All LVC students, not just seniors, need to be concerned about the economy. "It depends on who you ask and where you are wanting to go, but I personally would not be surprised if it is difficult for

the next couple graduating classes," said Miller. Because it takes the economy time to level out, no one truly knows how long the scarcity of jobs will last.

Miller said she believes that "it's important even for the freshmen who are here right now to be planning ahead to what they can do to make themselves more marketable when they do get to that graduating class. You can't guarantee that just because 'well, I'm still a freshman student,' four years from now, it will all work out."

Opportunities such as internships are becoming a very important resource for underclassmen. "The state of the economy has certainly made the need for internships that much greater," Miller said. Internships allow students to have as much experience as possible and also build networking possibilities. They allow a graduate's résumé to excel above other applicants in the competition for a job. Miller said, "internships are a must."

The economy has made it "that much more important to start planning and thinking ahead," she added. Miller advised students to "take advantage of every opportunity that you are given . . . network as much as possible and never burn bridges, take advantage of any professional develop opportunities, whether workshops or training or certifications."

She said she believed that "it is important to have a good attitude when the economy is like this, to remain upbeat to keep yourself looking. It takes a while to do a really in-depth job search."

"Keep in good spirits", she added, "and keep sending out all of your information. In addition, try to identify other jobs that maybe you hadn't considered before".

As for the underclassmen, "start taking advantage of everything that we have in whatever stage of the career planning process you're in," she said.

C. MELLINGER cbm002@lvc.edu

Students' perspective on economic conditions

GREG KENNELTY'13
LA VIE STAFF WRITER

2009 has been an interesting year for Americans, and what better way to remember it than with an empty pocket and a foreclosure sign? The economy has been taking a downward turn the past couple of years, and though there's still hope with a new president in office, it is still looking pretty bleak.

Though these times seem to be affecting the middle-aged working class, things aren't much better for the college crowd either.

"I could spend money, and not have to worry so much, but now

I have to count every penny," says Bill Bankert, a sophomore at Lebanon Valley College. "I'm working two jobs, and by summer I'll have to have a third, in addition to freelancing graphic design. It's still not enough."

Fun seems to have become a thing of the past, and going out to dinner on a Friday or Saturday is virtually unheard of now.

"Shopping has also become a pain," says Bankert, citing the lack of food and soda in his room as a by-product of the lack of cash flow. "The economy is just affecting the way we live now."

Jill Donadio, a sophomore at

Northeastern College, has taken a completely different outlook on the situation.

"I don't know," she says "I'm just broke every week, but I'm not really sure if it's the economy. I think I would be broke every week anyway," citing being a college student as the main reason for having no income.

However, as opposed to Bankert's outlook about his personal life being affected, Donadio has claimed that the economy has become an issue for her school tuition.

"I should have gotten more financial aid as a second-year stu-

dent, but instead I got way less than last year and had some of my federal loans and grants taken away."

Overall, and in one sense or another, college students are seemingly being hit hard by the economic downturn over the recent years.

Still, not all the news is bad. Job losses do seem to be going down, from 741,000 losses in January down to 190,000 lost in October. Maybe by the time a lot of us graduate, the situation will be more in our favor.

G. KENNELTY gmk001@lvc.edu

Internship opportunities: only a click away

MORGAN CROUSE'11
LA VIE STAFF WRITER

With the economy hurting and unemployment at its highest point in recent memory, it would be logical to assume that internships also are reduced. However, there are plenty of opportunities still available, and LVC offers excellent resources for students interested in exploring the possibility of an internship. Career services provides updated listings of internship and job opportunities through their link on the MyLVC web page portal.

A quick search of the LVC job center data base recently revealed 84 internship postings, and the page is updated regularly. Of course, one must sift through the results to find a suitable internship for specific majors. The majority of the postings are from local businesses and organizations including Hershey and The Whitaker Center, to name a few.

Another source for internship information and opportunities is Internships USA. A link can be found on career services home page. According to the description on career services' home page, "The site provides full, up-to-date information on more than 2,800 organizations offering internship and summer work to students. Opportunities exist in community & social services, international affairs, women's rights, America's top companies, media, sports, the environment, state parks, law and public policy, resorts, congress, human rights, history, and advertising."

Employment opportunities may be down, but businesses and organizations around the country are still searching for talented students willing to engage in internship opportunities. The possibilities are only a click away.

M. CROUSE mdc001@lvc.edu

MIC: fifth year of conference a success

Continued from Page 1

meeting people."

And, if networking is the biggest part of the conference, it is easy to say that MIC V was a solid success. As of publication, three students involved with MIC had been guaranteed internships at the companies owned or represented by several of the panelists, includ-

ing the Berks County Jazz Fest and Harrisburg's own Champion Ship Records.

The real success of the conference is in how much LVC's music students took away from the event. The top professionals sitting on the panels stressed time and again the importance of education and networking in the music business.

One such professional was Daren Metz, a percussionist with the Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra and Head Percussion Instructor at the Philadelphia Clef Club of Jazz and Performing Arts. This talented musician was in charge of the drum clinic, and, now that he is recording a solo album with Sony Records, gave this piece of worldly advice to students look-

ing to make it in the music scene:

"Stay humble. Never have an ego. Always learn from every experience. And don't forget, a positive attitude and a learning attitude will get you a long way."

P. SALOMON pps001@lvc.edu

Corrections & Clarifications

It is our continuing goal to provide readers with complete and accurate information. To that end, we welcome and encourage notification of any mistakes. Readers who wish to submit corrections should send an email to lavie@lvc.edu, subject line: *Corrections*.

NEWS

College nearing student capacity

CODY SHEPP'12
LA VIE STAFF WRITER

The measurement for success is often growth; but at LVC, infinite growth is not in the plans. As outlined in the 2009-2016 Strategic Plan, campus enrollment will be capped at 1,700 full-time students. The school's website lists enrollment at 1,600.

By limiting the number of students enrolled, the income generated by tuition is also being limited. One way for the college to get more money would be to increase tu-

ition, but the Strategic Plan stresses that tuition be kept at a "financially tolerable discount rate" and that financial aid should continue to be a major selling point of the College.

So why limit student enrollment at all? College President Stephen MacDonald pointed out recently that the College's relationship with the community, as well as its academic and social ideals, support this limitation. Annville is not a very large town, and the space LVC occupies, as well as the surrounding area, does not allow for much expansion. In addition, the

student-teacher ratio would grow along with the student population. In order to keep its role as a small liberal arts college, LVC must remain just that – small.

The Strategic Plan outlines ways in which LVC can investigate other avenues for income growth even after student enrollment is capped. Some ideas include the growth of "endowment and quasi-endowment through gifts, investment returns, spending policy discipline, and operating budget excess revenue transfers."

C. SHEPP cas002@lvc.edu

Study reports interesting findings on college email addresses

CHRISTINE HEAGY'13
LA VIE STAFF WRITER

College e-mail addresses for students may soon be a thing of the past, according to a recent study. The Chronicle of Higher Education found that nearly 10 percent of undergraduate institutions were considering not issuing student e-mail addresses, because so many students have their own personal accounts.

This is not an issue currently, said David Shapiro, director of technical services here at Lebanon Valley College, "but we are keeping our minds open." He cited numerous reasons for keeping LVC e-

mails; one is that all official e-mail communication goes through the LVC accounts.

Shapiro explained the two trends in the slowing of student e-mails: The first being a complete cessation of all e-mail accounts, the second one finding a different host, such as Google. He did not see LVC ever taking the first road, because it is simply "not the LVC personality."

However, the second does make sense for some institutions. Allegheny College, located in Meadville, Pa, and of similar size to LVC, recently made the switch to a Google host. Students still have the allegheny.edu tag to their email, but they log in through Google. Rick Hol-

mgren, director of informational technology at the college, said, "It makes communication easier for the college, and allows students and alumni to identify themselves as Alleghenians."

He added, "The product has worked well for us so far."

Though Allegheny College is happy with its new host, LVC's Shapiro is still not sure that would work as well here. Though it is much easier to manage, there is no on-campus help because it would not be the LVC staff that handled the service, he noted.

Said Shapiro, "We like to be hands-on as much as we can and we would lose that ability."

C. HEAGY cnh002@lvc.edu

Time to sell back the books

GREG KENNELTY'13
LA VIE STAFF WRITER

It is nearing the end of the semester, and with Christmas break in sight, there's just one question on every student's mind. How much am I going to get for all these books?

Let's start off with the campus store, which offers up to 50 percent back on any book returned, depending on the condition. The plus side is that it's cold, hard cash right on the spot without any alternative transactions or checks in the mail. Basically, if you've got some good-looking books and enjoy instant gratification, then the bookstore is the place to be in early December. As far as buying from the book

store goes, it's the average college book store. People will complain about prices, but if ordering online, you're going to run the risk of receiving the wrong books.

Amazon.com offers new textbooks at 30 percent off and up to 90 percent off any used textbook. They even have their own portion of the site dedicated to textbooks. Amazon also offers reimbursement programs for buyers, ensuring their items are top quality and are never taken for a monetary ride. For the buyer, these deals seem far too good to be true, but for the seller, the story is a little bit different. Understandably, you set your own price on Amazon, and while this could greatly benefit you, there are some minor kickbacks. First off, if

nobody buys the book you're selling, then you're out of the money it took to post the sale plus the money for posting next time. Also, if the ISBN number isn't listed on Amazon, then the book is not permitted to be sold there.

Lastly, and somehow still wildly popular, is eBay. Aside from the general promises eBay makes to ensure your money and items are safe and that no foul play is involved, that's about all you're going to get as far as a guarantee from them. Buying and selling on eBay poses the same issues as Amazon, only with more risk.

The upside is that we have more options than generations before us, and we have the ability to choose.

G. KENNELTY gmk001@lvc.edu



CAMPUS CRIMEWATCH

All information courtesy of the LVC Department of Public Safety

11-17-09 | Bishop Library

Assault

A Lebanon Valley College housekeeper was assaulted by her ex-boyfriend early Tuesday morning at the LVC library. The suspect fled campus after Public Safety Office was notified. Public Safety Office and Annville Township police are continuing the investigation.

11-21-09 | Red Lot "B"

Vehicle damage

A student reported her vehicle was hit while parked at the Red Lot "B" on campus. Vehicle was slightly dented with scratches. If anyone has any information concerning this incident, please contact the Public Safety Office at X6111.

11-22-09 | Centre Hall

Public Safety Office assisted Student Affairs personnel with a disturbance involving a small group of students from Centre Hall.

11-23-09

Harassment

A student received a harassing e-mail. Student Affairs/IT Services were notified along with Annville Township Police Department. Investigation continues.

Please report any suspicious activity to Public Safety at x6111.

Food Service Update

HEATHER VISCHORIC'12
LA VIE STAFF WRITER

Lebanon Valley College continues to assess its candidates for its next food provider at the start of the 2010-11 school year. Hallmark Food Service has been LVC's food service provider for 20 years now.

Dean Greg Krikorian, the school's vice president for student affairs, said last week that they hope to narrow the number of candidates soon. "We have site visits with the finalists in early December," he said.

Seven companies have expressed interest in becoming the next food provider, he said, including Hallmark.

Site visits involve visiting

other schools that get their food from the potential upcoming providers for LVC. Once at the school, LVC representatives will talk with students and see how they feel about the company's service.

When asked what LVC is looking for in its next food service provider, Krikorian said they are simply looking for a company that really meets the needs of the students. This is determined through student surveys and careful examination of the potential future providers.

H. VISCHORIC hlv001@lvc.edu

Features

Heifer for the holidays

ANDREA HOOVER '11
LA VIE STAFF WRITER

Can't think of what to get mom and dad for Christmas? How about a gift that helps end world hunger?

The Heifer International Project gives struggling families around the world the gift of knowledge, resources, and skills. A needy family is given an animal in order to help them become more self-reliant and provide for themselves, as well as their community.

The offspring of those animals are then given to others in the village, "so the gift gets passed on until all the people that need help are helped," Biology professor Candice Falger explains.

The project mainly benefits

women and children, Falger explains. It enables them to better care for themselves and their families.

Most of us are typical college students on a tight budget, so it may not be ideal to purchase a \$500 heifer. However, shares of animals are available to purchase as well. A share of a heifer costs \$50 while a share of a goat, pig, sheep, or trio of rabbits costs \$10. Other smaller gifts that won't break the bank are flocks of chicks for \$20 or honeybees for \$30. There are also tree seedlings available to purchase; a share of seedlings costs \$10 while the group of seedlings cost \$60.

So how can you get your hands on a Heifer gift? On Saturday, Dec. 5, 2009, from 8 a.m.



Photo courtesy of Google Images

to 2 p.m. the Church of the Good Shepherd on Quentin Road in Lebanon is hosting a living gift fair. At the fair, there are tables set up where shoppers can purchase shares of animals and trees. When a gift is chosen, the shop-

per receives an ornament and an information card. The cards have the name of the giver and the recipient written in calligraphy and display an explanation of the gift. The fair also has a petting zoo, baked goods, spinner demonstrations, and craft-making for children.

As Falger believes, "shares of animals are a great 'green' gift" and "wonderful ideas for those people who do not 'need anything.'" For more information about the Heifer International Project, visit www.heifer.org and pass on the gift.

A. HOOVER ach004@lvc.edu

CATCH THIS CLUB

CAITLIN MURPHY '12
FEATURES EDITOR

Equestrian Club



The LVC Equestrian Club is the newly formed interest group on campus for horseback riding. This small group of girls practice weekly and compete in horse shows all around the state. With riding classes ranging from beginner to novice, anyone could enjoy a comfortable time whether walking, trotting or jumping. This club takes lessons at Homestead Farms in Hummelstown and spend a few days out of the semester attending horse shows at Penn State, Wilson College, and Briarwood Stables (New Jersey). President Sarah Bechtel explains that the club's purpose is to "join together to better our skills in riding."

The IHSA (Intercollegiate Horse Show Association) hosts the collegiate competition, having LVC ride against IUP, Gettysburg, Penn State, York, Wilson, Bucknell and Juniata. The club participates in both fall and spring shows, and if an individual rider earns enough points, she can compete in the year-end Regional Show (11 schools). If a rider earns enough points she can move onto Zones (49 schools). At zones, if first or second place is achieved, one can advance to Nationals (370 schools). President Sarah Bechtel did qualify for zones but missed Nationals by three places.

The officers are President Sarah Bechtel, Vice President Kate Cusick, Secretary Mary O'Malley, and Treasurer Julia Olley. Equestrian Club's last show is November 21st at Briarwood Stables. We would like to wish all members good luck and hope that success is grabbed by the reins!

Anyone interested can contact President Sarah Bechtel at seb003@lvc.edu

C. MURPHY crm003@lvc.edu

Mental health organization begins LVC chapter

CAITLIN MURPHY '12
FEATURES EDITOR

Active Minds is a country-wide college organization that specializes in helping students become educated in mental health issues. Due to the interest on campus, LVC has decided to start its very own chapter and hopes that students will take advantage of the program to increase their awareness and comfort level in talking about mental health with peers or the mental health services available on campus.

Director of Counseling Services, Kathy Gallagher has been gathering a group of interested students and administration.

She believes that Active Minds "uses the student voice in order to encourage other students to understand their own mental health issues, needs, and the resources available to maintain mental health."

Gallagher also notes how important it is to remove the stigma surrounding mental health and counseling services.

"By removing these barriers," Gallagher explained, "students who need assistance will receive

the help they need, while students who do not understand the dynamics surrounding mental health issues will be able to gain an understanding of those in need."

This Thursday, Dec. 3, 2009, a "De-Stress Break" will be held in the Mund College Center lobby from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. where Active Minds members will be promoting the new chapter and helping students relieve stress. Cookies and activities will be provided for any interested student.

Active Minds will also be hosting a "Yell-fest" at 7:45 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 6, 2009 in the New

Student Center courtyard where students may "scream out" some stress before finals week.

The next organizational meeting is this Thursday, Dec. 3, 2009 at 4 p.m. on the second floor of Shroyer. Any interested students can contact Area Coordinator, Leah Mauro at mauro@lvc.edu, who will be assisting Gallagher in her efforts, or sophomore Samantha Gatewood at srg002@lvc.edu, who plans to take leadership of the group.

C. MURPHY crm003@lvc.edu

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Rotaract and the Heiffer Project

Over the past few months, LVC Rotaract Club has been fundraising with hopes of reaching a goal of \$500 to purchase a cow through the Heiffer project. Selling cookies and milk a few nights each month, Rotaract plans to put their earnings to good use. With lots of hard work and generous donators, they were able to surpass their goal and earn \$ 508.83. Congratulations Rotaract on your service and success.

-By Caitlin Murphy '12

Arts & Entertainment

“New Moon” crashes and burns

TONY GORICK '11

A&E EDITOR

Bella Swan? Edward Cullen? A piece of cardboard?

It's sad when inanimate paper objects have just as much depth as characters in a film. The Twilight Saga: New Moon grossed \$142.8 million opening weekend.

\$142.8 million. *Really?* I want to go back to when we had remarkable films dabbling in the fantastic (*The Lord of the Rings* ring a bell?)

I found myself attending the midnight showing of New Moon.

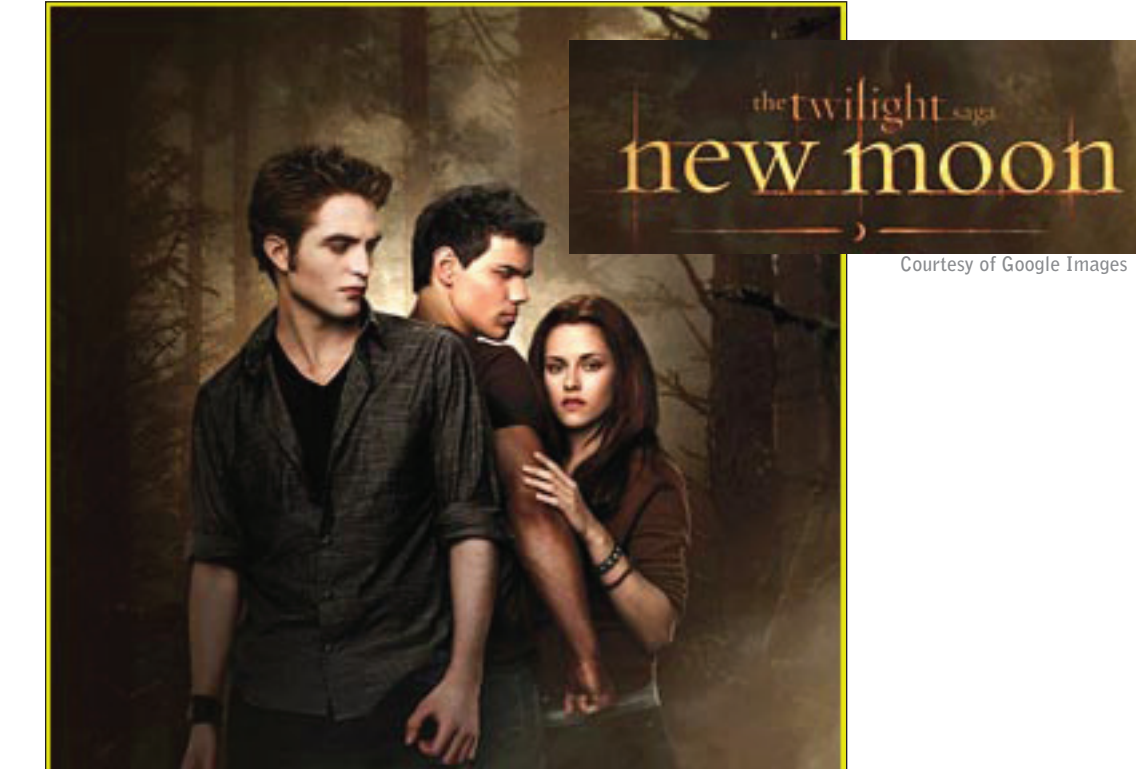
Girls. That was what surrounded every part of the room. Preteens, teens, college students, moms, and every other kind of female you could imagine. And yes, there were guys there, too.

The lights darkened and the title crawled on the screen to the screams of the audience.

I sat back. Let the bloodletting begin.

I eyed those around me who were waiting for the eye candy show of vampires and werewolves in this convoluted romantic fantasy.

The Twilight Saga: New Moon (yes, there will be more) starts where the first Twilight installment left off. The film is directed by Chris Weiz, who thankfully dismissed the shaking camera-work of the prior director, but fails at enhancing the story. Bella (Kristen Stewart) is still



Courtesy of Google Images

TWILIGHT CONTINUED After the successful launch of the first Twilight film, “New Moon” follows its predecessor with a (slightly) improved next step in the series

in turmoil while living with her dad in rain-all-the-time-drearyville. The film basically follows her actions while dealing with her vampire crush, Edward (Robert Pattinson), suddenly moving away from the area. She becomes depressed and thus begins her reliance on another young man—Jacob (Taylor Lautner). Cue usual teen issues including “should I love a vampire or werewolf” problems and whether or not these two boy protagonists can get over their monstrous ri-

valry.

Will Bella choose Edward? Will she choose Jacob? Will she get a personality? Does anyone really care?

I have to admit, in some ways this film greatly enhanced some extremely problematic areas from the first one. New Moon isn't nearly as disastrous cinematographically as the first, and special effects at least *exist* this time around. At one point in the film, a character dives into computer-generated water ee-

rily reminiscent of a Windows '97 screensaver, but other than that, the effects weren't nearly as awful as the first. The werewolves in the film provided a nice break from monotonous dialogue between characters we are supposed to care for, and the battles between a few were semi entertaining. At times when the big dogs were on screen, I forgot I was trudging through a thick sludge of a storyline.

But, then I snapped back to reality. This movie was pretty bad. Ac-

tually, it was *very* bad.

Chemistry between Edward and Bella not only isn't there, but it is actually the opposite considering what happens between the two awkward characters. I don't want to get on the overused “what team are you on, Edward or Jacob?” bandwagon, but after watching this movie, I can see Jacob has something some would like to call *personality*. If it wasn't for him, the main character scenes would be even worse than what's portrayed.

With a mish-mash of forced dialogue and enough romantic clichés to even make the inventor of the Hallmark card roll in his grave, New Moon fails to become a cinematic masterpiece—or even a film worth seeing. If it wasn't for the supporting actors and actresses surrounding the main three teens, this film would get the award for worst-talent-ever-used.

Is it all a loss from here? Well, the soundtrack is good. Download that if you insist on joining this latest trend that delves into an over-hyped love triangle of boredom.

What actually *was* the goal of this film?

Relentless boredom and excruciatingly monotony puts it straight into the “has-beens” of cinematic attempts.

T. GORICK

apg001@lvc.edu

LVC's “Christmas at the Valley” boasts multiple performances and more

CAITLIN MURPHY '12

FEATURES EDITOR

This Sunday, Dec. 6, 2009, Lebanon Valley College will be hosting its 55th annual Christmas at the Valley. At 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. any interested college student or community member can come to Miller Chapel to enjoy a variety of festive musical performances by LVC's own concert choir, college choir, handbell choir, guitar quartet and others. Because there is no admission charge and prelude performances are planned, it is suggested that attendees arrive a half-hour prior to start time to get a seat and enjoy the full experience.

LVC will continue to collect do-



nations of food, money, clothing, and other items for their Operation Santa Claus. This mission has been established to collect gifts for families-in-need around the Holi-

days, with hopes of spreading the true Christmas spirit of giving. In the past, LVC has collected over \$35,000 in donations and is proud to have been able to help local Leb-

anon County families. Offerings and donations can be dropped off at designated baskets located at the Lobby doors of Miller Chapel before or after each performance.

This year's theme is *A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols*, which will showcase *Gloria, Glory to God in the Highest, In Dulci Jubilo, Vere Languores Nostros*, along with many others. The evening performance will also be a beautiful candlelight service where each audience member can light a candle and contribute to the concert by singing a Christmas carol.

After the Chapel performances, the audience can view a live Nativity scene that will showcase live animals.

Chaplain Fullmer remarked,

“In addition to the entertainment value of the animals, there is much inspiration to be had in seeing students endure freezing temperatures with angelic temperaments because of their conviction about the great hope that the Christmas story represents.”

The entertainment does not stop here, for attendees can then make their way over to a reception which will be held in the West Dining Hall of Mund College Center to celebrate the students' accomplishments while enjoying holiday desserts and hot and cold beverages.

C. MURPHY

crm003@lvc.edu

PERSPECTIVES

Letters to the Editor

La Vie Collegienne requires all submissions to contain the author's name, telephone number, address and/or e-mail address. No letters can be considered for publication unless the above criteria are met.

Telephone numbers and addresses will not be printed. Submissions will be strongly considered for publication if they contain the author's rank, major, or professional capacity.

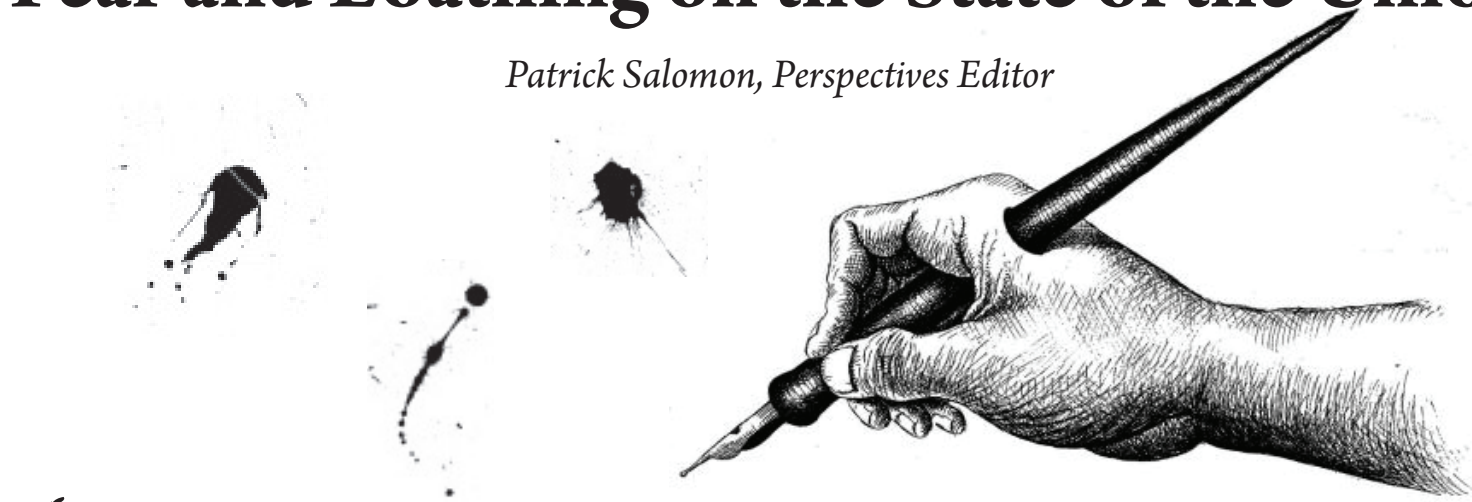
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Letters, columns, and opinion-based articles are not necessarily representative of *La Vie's* opinion or Lebanon Valley College.

Submissions may be e-mailed to lavie@lvc.edu, hand-delivered to our Mund office, or mailed to the address below.

Fear and Loathing on the State of the Union

Patrick Salomon, Perspectives Editor



12 hours until press time, and not a thing to put on the page. For lack of any better ideas, I decided to use the last issue in this foul year of Our Lord, 2009, to make sense of America's increasing susceptibility to madness. After all, what better way to end the year than by pointing out the undeniable truth that, should our proud nation continue on its current course, everything is going to get pretty messed up.

Then again, this is just one raving perspectives editor's opinion; the world through the eyes of a know-it-all 22 year old Super Senior.

The world needs to be looked at through a fresh set of eyes, and now is the time to start the ball rolling. If you find yourself nodding along with anything you read here today, then tune in and take up arms.

Find yourself put off, frightened, or enraged by anything you read here? Then, for the love of whatever gods you worship, take a stand on it. We have to inherit this world soon enough, and now is the time to start shaping our environment to suit our wants and needs.

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La Vie Collegienne

101 N. College Ave | Annville, PA 17003
Campus Extension 6169 or lavie@lvc.edu

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CO-EDITORS

Jake King '11
Katie Zwiebel '12

FEATURES EDITOR

Caitlin Murphy '12

A&E EDITOR

Tony Gorick '11

PERSPECTIVES EDITOR

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ONLINE CONTENT MANAGER

Kristin Miller '10

ADVISER

Robert E. Vucic

La Vie Collegienne is published every Wednesday of the academic year. Meetings are held Mondays at 6 p.m. in our Mund office, activities room #3. We're always looking for new writers!

Man Bear Pig isn't
Real! (Or isn't it?)

John Kerry: The Little
Senator that Couldn't

Marijuana: You knew it
would come to this

Here's the skinny: Wall Street Journal, Huffington Post, et. al... have been reporting on the story of how 3,000 e-mails hacked from the University of East Anglia's Climate Research Unit raise serious questions about what's up with this whole "Global Warming" thing.

The e-mails allegedly include correspondences between Phil Jones, director of the CRU, and Michael Mann, director of PSU's Earth System Science Center. Both gentlemen are world leaders in climate science.

The epic fail gets enthralling here, because these leading climate scientists have allegedly been encouraging their colleagues to fix their data so that the desired theory on man-made climate change is being presented. This includes giving tips on how to "hide the decline" of temperature, and keep other opposing, and inconvenient, data out of the leading journals.

In short, these swine have been gobbling up a lot of your tax dollars, telling you to put mercury laden light bulbs in your home, and preaching like John himself about the end of the world, when they don't even have a clue if it is happening. And, even if something is happening, these e-mails can certainly call some of these scientists' stated "conclusions" to task.

Senator Kerry, what can I say? You have long been a disappointment to the Democrat Party. You look like Lurch, you failed to win an election that could have been won by a top notch guerilla high school Student Government campaign team, and now, as Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, you're showing a heinous lack of backbone on the issue of Osama Bin Laden.

To those not in the know, Senator Kerry's committee has found that Osama Bin Laden was "within reach of US troops after 9/11". "Within reach" means that the sizeable force of the world's most advanced army was poised and ready to capture the alleged mastermind of the 9/11 attacks. With Bin Laden stuck in a desolate mountain pass with no hope of escape, the powers that be in the United States military issued the order to...do nothing.

It seems to me like the only apparent consequence of not capturing Bin Laden at the time was an elongated military affair, which was used time and again to control and manipulate the opinions of the American people. There was zero strategic military advantage to letting Bin Laden escape at that point in time and I think that Sen. John Kerry is a little pansy for still playing politics and not calling the previous administration out on this.

Thirteen states in the good ole' US of A have enacted some form of legislation legalizing the use and possession of medicinal marijuana. This is one dirty glimmering diamond of hope in the state of our Union today.

Time and again the marijuana movement has been told "no", and time and again the marijuana movement has said "uh, pishaw dude. as if." The determination to down right refuse what the State tells us to be true is admirable, and growing in its effect on influencing policy. If you want a prime example of what this country was supposed to be about from the start, look to the Marijuana Movement.

It's time for conservative marijuana naysayers to throw in the towel. The War on Drugs is getting expensive, and all of us have grotesquely large student loan payments to get rid of over the course of forever. Surrender now, or face the consequences of public outrage over the trillions wasted on policing a plant.

Letter to
the Editor

YOU WROTE

Though Slavoj Žižek's visit to Lebanon Valley College was definitely front page news, the article devoted to it was hardly newsworthy.

The bulk of the article was a summary of Žižek's work and theories that could have been read off Wikipedia (perhaps it was). Not a single quote from the actual conversation between Žižek and Dr. Robbins made it into the article, nor did any attendee's thoughts on the discussion.

As a student at LVC and a reader of *La Vie*, I am more interested in other students' perspectives on the event and of what people who attended the conversation thought about the dialogue. The article contained none of this, and was therefore a disappointing review of an exciting event.

-Eileen Beazley '11

P. SALOMON

pps001@lvc.edu

SPORTS

VALLEY TALLY

Field Hockey Compiled by Lauren Seidenstricker '11

The Lebanon Valley College field hockey team had an outstanding year and finished with a season record of 19-4 overall. Lebanon Valley entered its post-season play falling to Messiah for the Commonwealth crown, but received an at-large bid for the NCAA national tournament. Seven Dutchmen were named all-Commonwealth Conference. Shelly Lobach, Avery Carter, Danielle Blasé and Nikki Bombberger were all named first team. Jocelyn Novak, Jenni Walker and Caitlin Baro all received second-team honors while freshman Caitlin Vasey was named Commonwealth Conference Rookie of the Year. Lobach and Novak were also both named All-Americans; Lobach receiving first-team recognition and Novak receiving second-team recognition. They become LVC's 40th and 41st players to be selected to the All-American teams.

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

JOE MEEHAN BASKETBALL

Meehan was named the Commonwealth Conference Player of the week. He helped LVC tremendously when he shot the game-winning three-pointer with 7 seconds left to beat F&M 62-59.



ERYN SCHULTZ BASKETBALL

For the first time ever in women's basketball, Schultz went a perfect 8-8 from the field for 21 points as LVC downed Misericordia 66-56. The standard for attempts is a minimum of 8, and Schultz was the first to do that.



SEASON: Best there ever was

Continued from Page 8

conference recognitions and a title after he helped the Dutchmen capture their bowl victory. In that game, LVC scored 17 fourth-quarter points to overcome a 21-20 deficit. Most Outstanding Player Alex Gilchrist had 10 tackles and a sack and forced two fumbles, returning one 25 yards for a touchdown. The Dutchmen were able to rally by holding Salisbury to one first down in the second half. In all, LVC held Salisbury's potent run game to just 134 yards and 184 yards overall.

Along with these two valuable offensive weapons among this senior class, captain wide-outs Joe Brennan and Sean Donovan will be departing as well. After coming back for his second season due to injury in his first, the speedy wide receiver proved he was still at the top of his game by finishing his senior year with 614 yards and five touchdowns. He also received recognition as a all-conference returner.

Brennan will leave the Dutchmen with the questions of who will become their new deep threat. He finished off his final year by bringing in 775 yards receiving along with haul-

ing in 11 touchdown catches. The speedy wide receiver for the second straight year captured all-conference honors for his game-changing plays as well as for his stunning touchdown grabs in the end zone. He caught five balls for 105 yards and a touchdown in the win over Salisbury.

The Dutchmen will be moving on next season as well without their slot receiver Matt Donley who was known for his key catches in clutch situations, in the Dutchmen's big games over his career. Two of those TD catches came in the win over Salisbury.

The last offensive key departure comes from up front as the face of this Dutchmen offensive line loses its four-year starting all-conference tackle Sean Tetreault. He proved that he was a special player just as Parker did during their freshman year as both became varsity starters when they came in. After making an impact for the Dutchmen with his outstanding blocking on the line, Tetreault was rewarded with all-conference honors in three of his four seasons here.

On the defensive side of the ball, the Dutchmen are losing their core of middle backers who have stood

there since their arrival. Bruno Iozzo has been a solid player for this Dutchman defense, creating havoc behind the line of scrimmage for opposing offenses. This year he recorded 51 tackles, 34 of them solo, as well as recording three sacks, catching one interception and causing a safety. Iozzo's partner has been Will Keylor, and it's going to be weird not seeing No. 35 on the field next year. He is a defender that the quarterback must locate after he breaks his huddle. In his time playing here he has sacrificed his body numerous times, popping either his shoulder or one of his fingers back into place without letting the pain affect his play.

As the Dutchmen have wrapped up their 2009 season, they have accomplished so much. While they didn't accomplish their preseason goal of winning a MAC championship, this team can still call themselves champions in the end. Along with that, this LVC team with their season accomplishments can call themselves the best team to come through this program ever.

B.RANSOM vbr001@lvc.edu

Upcoming Games

Wed, Dec. 02, 2009

Women's Basketball
at Lycoming College
6 p.m.

Men's Basketball
at Lycoming College
8 p.m.

Sat, Dec. 05, 2009

Men's & Women's Swimming
at Swarthmore College
9:30 a.m.

Women's Basketball
vs Arcadia University
1 p.m.

Men's Basketball
vs Arcadia University
3 p.m.

Men's Ice Hockey
vs Neumann College
3:00 p.m.

Men's & Women's Track & Field
at Ursinus Winter Invitational
TBA

For complete listings check
GoDutchmen.com

VIRTUAL: Athletes question new competition

Continued from Page 8

swimmer next to you, pushing you and motivating you to perform at your peak. The adrenaline won't be there."

Steph Mannon '11, another member of the LVC swim team, reinforced the same issues as Laurel presented, saying, "While I can certainly appreciate the need to conserve financial resources in such a difficult economic time, the idea of these so-called 'virtual swim meets' blow my mind. Swimming is both a team and an individual sport where the best time brings the win. In order to improve these times, a swimmer needs something called competition which the virtual swim meet totally extricates. Rather than racing swimmers from other teams in the lanes next to you to push you and improve your times, you are essentially racing your own teammates—something that could easily be done in practice every day."

I think most student-athletes would agree that you simply lose

too many vital dimensions of competition when it goes virtual. While the College or University will save money, the bottom line and lingering question remains this: At what cost is competition worth sacrificing...literally?

LVC swimming coach, Mary Gardner, recollected a past swim meet where coaches and officiating staff from the opposing college were thinking about holding a virtual swim meet due to a snowstorm that was making roads extremely treacherous. When it came time for a decision to be made about whether or not to have the meet via virtual means, both schools chose to have the meet cancelled. Both LVC and their rival knew that by engaging in virtual competition, a new precedent would be set, and this new precedent had the potential to deface the competitive aspect of the sport altogether. Both colleges recognized that if they were to agree to have a virtual meet, they'd be agreeing to tamper with the fragile dynamic

between actual competition and pseudo competition.

As far as the consensus opinion goes, virtual competition proves no substitute for real competition. If you take away the physical and primal presence that necessitates real competition, you obviously won't have real competition anymore; what you'd be left with could only really be classified as "passive and impersonal competition," which certainly wouldn't earn the same merit as "aggressive and personal" competition.

As swimming would appear the most viable candidate in terms of adopting a virtual outlook, another sport that has the potential to go virtual is cross country. The competition would be just as equitable if two colleges agreed to run a set distance and then compared times among the participants. Right? Wrong. In fact, James O'Brien, the LVC men's and women's cross country coach, said: "I am and would be opposed to the notion of hold-

ing virtual competitions in lieu of actual ones for all sports. In the sport that I coach, cross country, times are irrelevant as we run on many different types of courses in many different types of weather conditions. With this in mind, there would be no real basis for comparison that would be fair. Additionally, one of my favorite things about cross country is that we all start on the same starting line and cross the same finish line. There are no questions revolving around who needs to beat who to get a bid. At the MAC Championships, all 15 teams bring their best to the meet and we get to see who comes out on top. I believe it is one of the fairest sports in that regard. If virtual competitions were to become commonplace, it would tarnish the excitement of that competition, and disallow for athletes to really explore their abilities against stronger athletes from other teams."

M.GRODZINSKI mdg001@lvc.edu



Field Hockey honors
announced
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More on Virtual
Competition
Page 7

SPORTS



Competition: Contending with technology

MATT GRDOZINSKI '10
LA VIE STAFF WRITER

Nearby Dickinson College in Carlisle last winter held a virtual women's swim meet with Bryn Mawr College, about 112 miles away. Each team swam in its home pool, then compared times to determine the winners. They did it as a way to cut costs. "We probably saved \$900 on bus travel," William G. Durden, Dickinson's president, was quoted as saying.

That's certainly not how athletes and coaches would prefer to conduct their competitions. Athletes think of gut-wrenching emotion and unparalleled passion. When you look across the field, the court, or the lane at their opponent(s), nothing beats the feeling of pure adrenaline propagating through your veins. Right about the time you feel as if you're ready to delve into the heart of battle, you take notice to the countless fans and spectators audibly supporting you and cheering you on. These two aspects of competition are arguably the primary catalysts responsible for creating the energy that presides over collegiate athletic events.

You don't get either in a virtual competition. So you can understand the negative reactions from LVC students when they were asked how they'd like to be placed in the situation that those swimmers from Dickinson and Bryn Mawr were put in.

"What's the point of having meets if you're not actually meeting?" said Laurel Klappholz, '10, a current swimmer on the LVC women's team. "You're not going to swim your best time without a

She plays big...

Profile of Women's Basketball star, Andrea Hoover

KATIE FREEMAN '11
LA VIE STAFF WRITER

The 5-foot-5 point guard for LVC doesn't look too scary, that is until she steps onto the basketball court.

Andrea Hoover has led the team to back-to-back conference victories and 41 wins over the

last two seasons. Head coach Todd Gocłowski says it pays opponents not to draw conclusions from any visual first impressions. "For those observers who may underestimate Andrea because of her size, I say get ready for a long night," he says. "Andrea has a huge heart and competes to win; she's very talented. She plays big in big moments."

This season the Dutchmen are 4-0 entering their next game on Dec. 2. And you don't have to look far to find Hoover among the team's statistical leaders. Third in scoring (10.8 a game), first in assists (22) and first in steals (11).

Hoover says that ever since she was younger "my dad has told me I would have to 'play bigger'



Courtesy Sports Information

INTIMIDATION FACTOR Andrea Hoover '11 may not seem intimidating, that is until she steps out on the court. The 5'5" point guard knows how to play basketball and she lets her opponents know that as well. She plays competitively and she plays to win. She is currently third in the team in scoring, first in assists, and first in steals.

because of my size." According to Hoover her dad has also been a big influence throughout her basketball career. He has helped coach many of the teams she has played on. "He always motivated me to be a better player, but was never too overbearing," she says.

Hoover also gives a great deal of credit to her AAU coach, Kevin Lawrence. "He taught me not only how to be a better player, but a team player and to respect my coaches," she says. AAU is where Gocłowski first saw Hoover play. "She showed a lot skill and court savvy and was exciting to watch," he says. "She also displayed a great deal of class and maturity on the court with her teammates and opponents. I knew right away that I

wanted her as a teammate."

Hoover, who is one of the captains of the women's basketball team, also displays impeccable leadership abilities. Gocłowski describes Hoover as a coach on the floor. Hoover's teammate Caitlin Murphy adds that because Hoover is always positive and is giving everything she has in each drill, "her teammates respect her and are able to learn from her example. Her

"My dad has told me I would have to 'play bigger' because of my size."

leadership has made our team very successful this far," she says.

Despite her short and thin stature, Hoover has proven herself as a great basketball player and leader not only to her coaches but also to her teammates. Gocłowski says, "With all due respect to our larger basketball family, I think she may be the greatest point guard LVC women's basketball has ever seen."

The best to ever come through

BLAIR RANSOM '13
LA VIE STAFF WRITER

This historic season for the 2009 Dutchmen football team unfortunately has come to an end. This season has seen many first-time events take place as well as many of this program's history book being rewritten. LVC finished its season on Nov. 21 with a 37-21 victory over Salisbury in the 2009 ECAC Southwest Bowl at Arnold Field.

The Dutchmen (9-2) set a program record for wins in a season and won their first postseason game since the Tampa Bowl in 1935. In addition, LVC made its first postseason appearance since the 1951 Burley Bowl.

The Dutchmen have accomplished so much this season with their performance on the field, but unfortunately must now say goodbye to some of its key seniors. These seniors have not only impacted their team with their spectacular plays but have had an undeniable impact on this football program.

Running back Charlie Parker set a new mark to shoot for in LVC's football history book, finishing his career with 3,855 rushing yards and 35 rushing touchdowns. Along with this, Parker has been named all-conference three out of the four years he has been in a Dutchmen uniform. He had 83 yards on 28 carries in the bowl victory a couple of weeks ago.

Playing alongside Parker has been all-conference fullback Brian Lynch, who has contributed key blocking and hard-nose running in addition to his leadership. Lynch leaves LVC earning two all-